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THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Hurricane Barbara hits land in Mexico, two dead



OAXACA, Mexico (AFP) - Hurricane Barbara made landfall in Mexico's southern Pacific coast Wednesday, leaving at least two dead, including a 61-year-old US surfer who drowned under the waves, authorities said.

The storm, packing maximum sustained winds of 120 kilometers (75 miles) per hour, hit land in the state of Chiapas, a rural region with archeological sites near the neighboring state of Oaxaca, the US National Hurricane Center said.

The US man "was dragged by the waves and died" after he ignored a ban on entering the beach in the town of Salina Cruz in Oaxaca, state civil protection director Manuel Maza told AFP.

The second victim was a 27-year-old man who was swept away by an overflowing river in the Oaxaca town of Pinotepa Nacional, Mayor Carlos Sarabia said.

In the state of Guerrero, heavy rains flooded some streets of the resort city of Acapulco, with water levels reaching 52 centimeters (20 inches) and sweeping away at least three cars, an AFP correspondent said.

In Oaxaca, authorities had urged residents to stay home, while the ports of Salina Cruz, Huatulco, Puerto Angel and Puerto Escondido were shut down. Some 200 families were taken to shelters, officials said.

Continued on pg 6

Biden warns of drugs threat to Caribbean

PORTE-OF-SPAIN (AFP) - US Vice President Joe Biden warned Tuesday that preferred cocaine and heroin trafficking routes could shift back to the Caribbean, because smugglers were being squeezed in Central America.

Biden stopped in Trinidad and Tobago for talks with senior officials and regional leaders as part of a six-day tour in the Americas, which started in Colombia and will also take him to Brazil.

In a statement to the press, after talks with Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and a total of 15 regional leaders and top officials, Biden said the United States was "deeply invested" in the Caribbean and wanted to become more so.

He noted that due to successes in combating drugs trafficking in the 1980s and 1990s in the Caribbean, the preferred route for drug trafficking had switched to corridors in Central America.

Continued on pg 6

Thank you Mrs. Shirley MacLeod for loving our island for 40 years



Recently Mrs. Shirley M. MacLeod was honored as Goodwill Ambassador for visiting Aruba for 40 years and staying at the Holiday Inn Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba between 10 and 20 years consecutive. Mrs. MacLeod is a member of Holiday Inn Resort and have been enjoying the Island every year. Ms. Darline S. de Cuba representing Aruba Tourism Authority and Lucien representing Holiday Inn Beach Resort conducted the ceremony. Mrs. MacLeod's main reasons to keep returning to our beautiful Aruba were the great weather, and friendly Aruban Hospitality.

King moves to Kremlin-funded TV channel

MOSCOW (AFP) - Legendary US television presenter Larry King announced Wednesday that he was moving his show to a Kremlin-funded TV station that primarily broadcasts Moscow's views on world affairs.

RT channel director Margarita Simonyan tweeted a link to a TV ad in which the suspenders-wearing veteran makes the grand announcement himself.

"I would rather ask questions to people in positions of power instead of speaking on their behalf," King said in the ad.

"That's why you can find



my show Larry King Now right here on RT."

The television station itself said that King was likely to interview Russian politicians for his show but provided no information about

its start date.

The 79-year-old King broadcast his world-famous "Larry King Live" show on the US cable news broadcaster CNN between 1985 and 2010.

The English-language RT network was formed with the Kremlin's help in 2005 to help promote Russia's image abroad and support its foreign policies.

The station has won attention for broadcasting a controversial show by WikiLeaks website founder Julian Assange and frequently running reports attacking social conditions in the United States.

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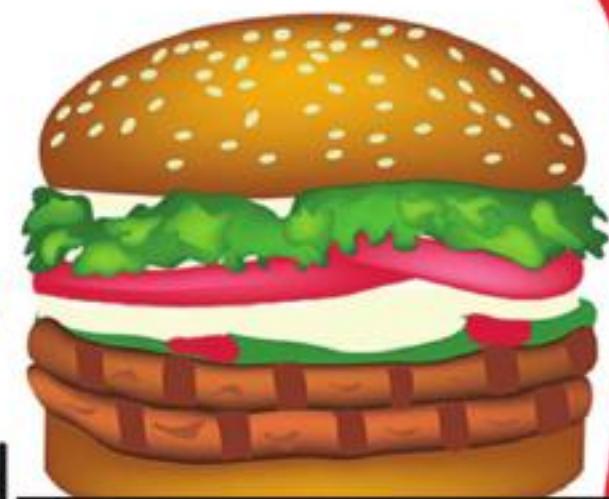
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The 2012 Income Tax Forms have been issued

The Aruba Tax Bureau has issued a bulletin informing the public that the Income Tax Forms for 2012 have been issued. This is the form that every citizen residing on the island is required to fill out and submit. During the month of June this form will be received through the local mail as is customary. The official issued date is July 1st, 2013 and everyone should have received their copy by this date. Every client receives two months to fill out and submit the form. The last day to submit the form is September 2nd, 2013.

The Department advises everyone to begin preparing the necessary documents related to their income over the past year (2012). These will include, for example, annual salary, work pension, old age pension, widower's pension, rent incomes, income from side-jobs, bank interest letters, life insurance, donations made, child school expenses, etc.

Personal Business:

Those with sole proprietorship of a company should sub-

mit their annual statement for 2012, or to get an advisor.

Help with filling out the form:

The Department will again this year provide assistance services for those needing help with filling out the tax forms. These assistance days will begin August 17 and will run straight through to August 31. They will announce further details about this at a later date.

Bring along copies:

When submitting the form at the Tax Office, it is advisable to bring along a copy of the declaration. In this manner the client will receive a stamped copy indicating that his form was indeed submitted.

Filling out and submitting the income tax form is a legal obligation. By submitting the form on time, the client will avoid being levied a fine. The fine is usually 5% of the total amount of the tax amount or a minimum of Afls.250, or a maximum of Afls.10.000. By means of this form, the client makes use of his legal right to deduct certain expenses from his income.

Digicel supporting 'Traimerdia' Centers



Digicel looks back today on another extraordinary campaign for the 'Mid-afternoon' Centers. Several centers have celebrated the closing event of the intensive, educational reading program sponsored by the Digicel Company here. Each center chose a different theme that was relevant to the educational needs of the children.

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Exciting international performer Levi Silvanie live at Sand Beach Lounge this Saturday



Curacao singer/songwriter on the rise, Levi Silvanie, will be performing his very singular sound this coming Saturday, June 1, in a special performance at the Brickell Bay Beach Resort Sand Beach Lounge, beginning at 8:00 PM.

The artist's mellow mix of pop classics are combined with his original works of a distinctly Bossa Nova/soft jazzy bent; they are a perfect match to the relaxing ambiance of Sand Beach Lounge. Levi came to prominence after releasing his first single, "Bek" in 2010, followed by one of his biggest hits, "Djis Mi Mes (Simply Me)." His performance at the 2011 Curacao North Sea Jazz Festival established his commercial success. He packed in the audiences for his 2011 "Different" Tour. CD's of "Different" will be available for sale during his Aruba performance. His music has been described as "Folk Pop" and "Alternative World," as he "displays a unique mixture of various cultural backgrounds with popular music packed with positivism and good vibes. His music serves as empowerment, meant to bring out the best" in listeners.

Maria Silva of Vibrations, which is organizing the

event, announced that Levi will be arriving on Aruba on Friday, May 31, and will give a brief preview of his concert that evening at the Plaza Turismo in Oranjestad at 6:30 PM. Performing with Levi on Saturday night will be Oscar Chivago Bor on Bass, Francesco Bongiorno, percussions, Filippo Castellazzi on guitar and Naomi Angela Silvanie, his sister, does back up vocals. Aruban percussionist Jair Britten will also performed, and has signed to accompany Levi on his world tour.

After the concert, guest band Datapanik will continue

to perform during the after party, and Sand Beach will stay open until 3:00 AM. A limited number of very unique tickets have been



printed for the first comers, which are attractive, high quality stickers. Tickets for the concert are available at Bula Surf Shop, CD's & More, Brickell Bay Beach Resort Sand Beach Lounge, the Valero Station in Palm Beach and Veneta Cucine, customized kitchen store on the Avenida Milio Croes in Dakota. VIP table tickets are only sold at Sand Beach Lounge and through Vibrations PR company.

Contact Vibrations at 583-9011 or e-mail vibrationpr@gmail.com.

By Rosalie Klein

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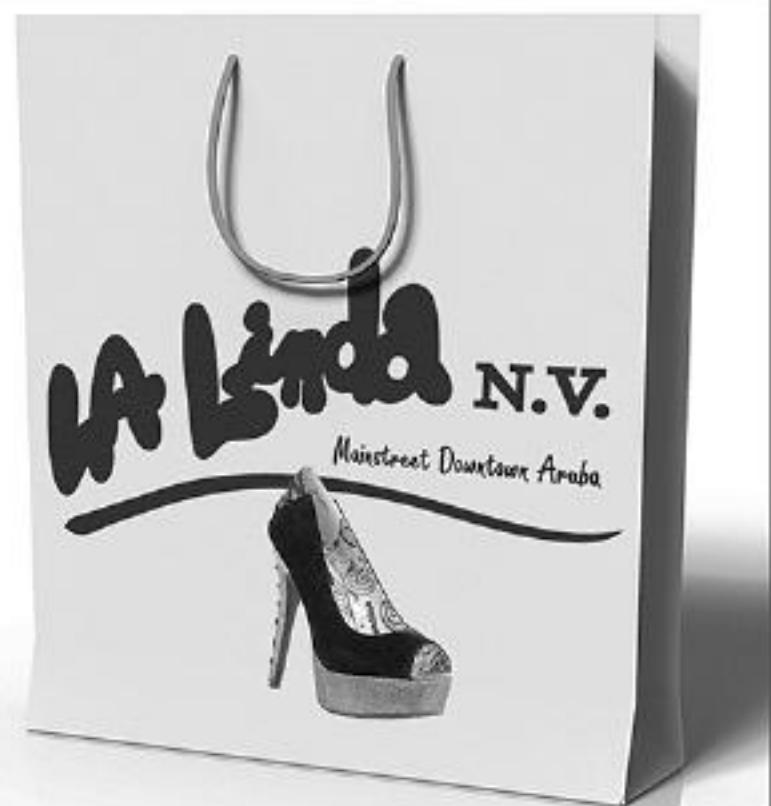
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Register now for the annual Aruba Bank 4-day Run/Walk



Aruba Bank Caminata Crew

The time has come again for Aruba Bank's annual effort to encourage islanders to exercise and stay fit; their 4-day fun run/walk. Aruba Bank's Rosila Acosta extended an invitation to all the community to form groups, devise attractive and innovative themes and outfits, and win cash prizes for their efforts, while enjoying a pleasant way to stay fit.

This year, the walk will

have not created their own as part of a group. Those wishing to participate can register at the IBISA headquarters on Frankrijkstraat in Oranjestad or in San Nicolas between the hours of 7:30 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline for registration is June 6. It is also possible to obtain a registration form online at www.arubabank.com. The fee is 10 Arubian florins



take place Monday through Thursday, June 10 through 13. Registration is now open for a max of 1500 walkers/runners, who will receive very attractive shirts to wear during the walk, if they

(\$5.57) which includes an attractive shirt and daily refreshments. Each participant will receive a voucher for two free days at the Cuts and Curves Gym, which is valued at 75 Arubian florins (\$43.)

The registration form to be handed in to the IBISA office is also available on the walk's Facebook Page.

At the end of the four days, there will be substantial cash awards. Those wishing to compete for the cash prizes must participate in each of the walk/runs over all four days. These will be awarded to the "Overall Top 10" in male and female division. There will also be group prizes for The Most Animated, Best Uniforms, and Largest Group.

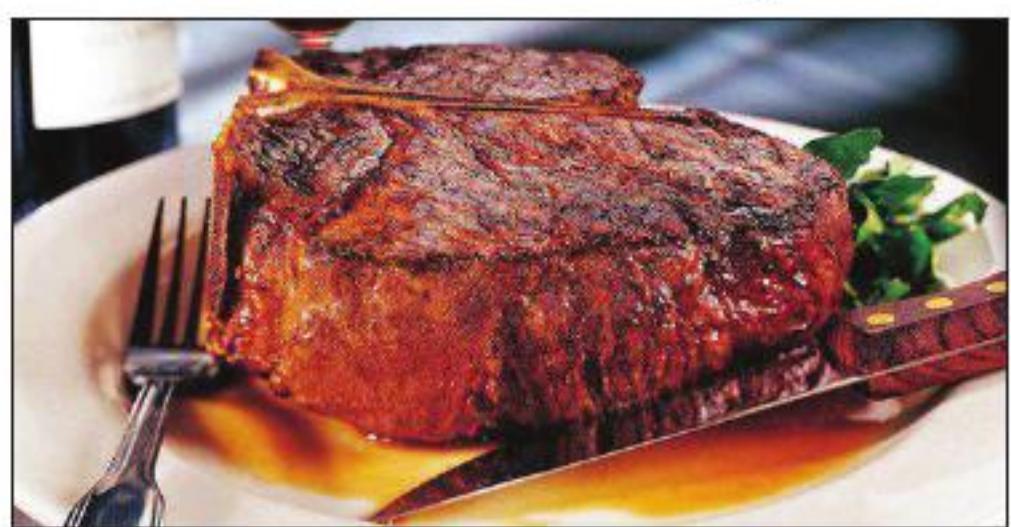
The Aruba Triathlon Committee, represented by Maxmillion Irving, is organizing a system of electronic metering for those competing for the cash prizes. An assigned chip system as used in world-class marathons will be deployed, with electronic registration of all runners. Only those wearing the chips and also a numbered banner, will be eligible to win a cash prize. There are 400 chips and holders on hand, so serious contenders should register early.

Julio Luidens of IBISA outlined the routes of each walk, which will begin promptly at 6:30 PM each day. Prior to the actual walk, Aruba Bank is hosting a Zumba warm up session beginning at 6:00 PM.

Tai Foo Lee of Subway sandwich shops announced they are proud to again sponsor this event, which is in keeping with their company philosophy of "Eat Healthy-Live Healthy." During the four days of the event, their various outlets will offer a 10% discount to all participants stopping by their stores wearing their Aruba Bank Walk shirts.

By Rosalie Klein

**...\$49 dinner special...
LG Smith Steak and Chop House sets the 'jazzy mood' this Saturday**

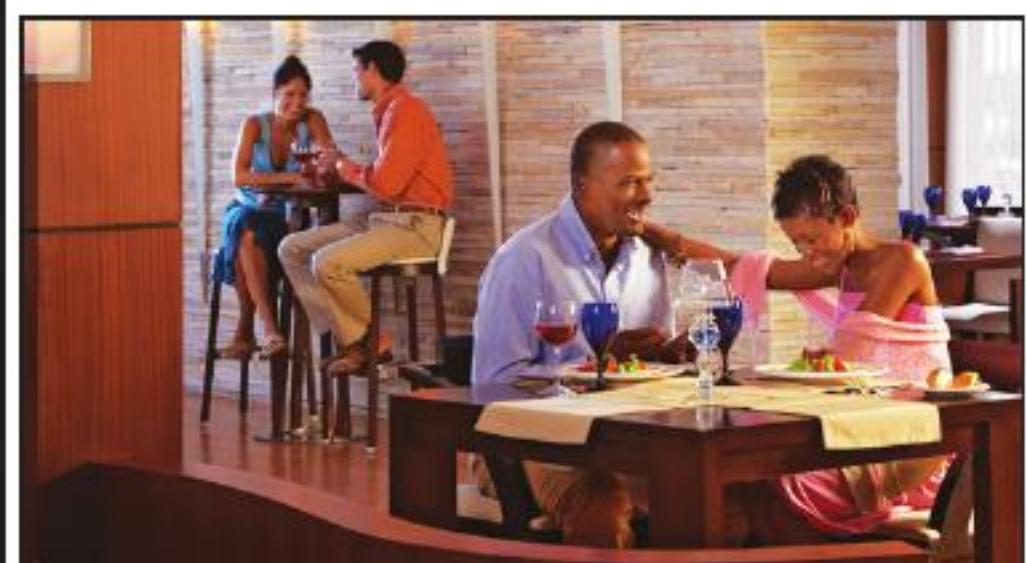


LG Smith Steak and Chop House restaurant located on the second floor of the Renaissance Mall; offers exquisite dishes and high quality



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urday providing relaxing Jazz music. Visit LG Smith Steak and Chop House and enjoy a different ambience combined with good food and 'jazzy vibes'. If relaxation is what you are looking for, come to LG Smith Steak and Chop House, select an exceptional wine from the extensive wine list and treat yourself to a unique night. For reservations please call 523-6195 or e-mail zlindeborg@arubarentaissance.com. 'Like' our page on Facebook and stay up to date with LG Smith Steak and Chop House located on the second floor of the prestigious Renaissance Mall. LG Smith Steak and Chop House is open nightly for dinner from 5:30PM to



Angus Beef Manhattan strip plus a glass of wine for only \$49.

Saxophonist "El Prove" is at the LG Smiths' every Sat-

11PM and the Lounge Mignight Grill from 11PM to 6AM. Join us for your next dining experience or during your stay on the island.

Indonesian mosques ordered to turn down the volume

JAKARTA (AFP) - Indonesian mosques have been ordered to cut down on their use of loudspeakers, an Islamic group said Wednesday, a move that may provide some relief to millions who live near the places of worship.

There are some 800,000 mosques in Indonesia, which has the world's biggest Muslim population, and many use speakers to blast out the call to prayer as well as fiery Koranic verses, often at high volumes in the early hours.

But now the Indonesian Mosques Council has asked the places of worship to restrict the use of loudspeakers following years of complaints by weary residents.

"We must not force something that we believe is good on others who may see it as a disturbance," said Masdar Masudi, deputy head of the council that groups many of the country's mosques.

"Even Muslims, such as those who are ill or have insomnia, will definitely get annoyed at the noise."

Loudspeakers that face into surrounding neighbourhoods should broadcast only the call to prayer, which is often relatively quiet and short, said Masudi.

If there are several mosques in the same area, only one should broadcast the call, he said.

Mosques become particularly noisy during the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims forgo food, drink and sex between dawn and dusk and the loudspeakers blare out Koranic verses almost constantly.

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“SETAR Mas Cerca Dibo” tonight for Seroe Colorado community

SEROE COLORADO — SETAR N.V. is organizing an informative and educational session tonight, May 30th, for the Seroe Colorado community. During the “SETAR Mas Cerca Di Bo” — “SETAR Closer To You” session, attendees will get information on three topics, Cable Service, Landlines and Internet.

There is also the possibility to apply for these services on this same night.



SETAR clients applying for one of these service must

submit a valid identification (ID of Aruba, Dutch passport or Aruba driving license) together with a proof of residence address (i.e. copy of a address registration at the Census Bureau, or a water or energy bill not older than three months).

Non-SETAR clients wishing to apply for one of these services need to submit a valid identification (ID of Aruba, Dutch passport or Aruba driving license), the last two pay slips or an employer's letter, and a proof of

residence address (i.e. copy of a address registration at the Census Bureau, or a water or energy bill not older than three months).

SETAR invites all interested persons wishing to know more on their services to come to this informative night at Costa Riba restaurant at 7 pm.

For more information on “SETAR Mas Cerca Di Bo” please call tel. 525-1700

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Hurricane Barbara hits land in Mexico, two dead

Continued from pg 1

Barbara grew into a category one hurricane -- the lowest on the five-level Saffir-Simpson scale -- before making landfall 35 kilometers (20 miles) west of the Chiapas town of Tonala, the US hurricane center said.

In its 2100 GMT bulletin, the center said a "prolonged threat of heavy rains" was expected but a "rapid weakening" of the storm would occur late Wednesday and that Barbara would "dissipate within the next day or so."

Mexico's National Water Commission warned that Barbara's winds could affect the neighboring states of Chiapas, Tabasco, Campeche, Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Veracruz and Guerrero.

The storm was moving to-

ward the northeast at 15 kph (nine mph), the US hurricane center said. Tropical force winds extend outward up to 110 kilometers (70 miles) from the storm's center.

Barbara was forecast to dump up to 25 centimeters (10 inches) of rain over parts of Oaxaca and Chiapas, with as much as 50 centimeters (20 inches) possibly falling in isolated areas of southeastern Oaxaca, the center said.

"These rains could cause life-threatening flash floods and mud slides," it warned. A storm surge would likely raise water levels by up to 1.5 meters (five feet) on the coast.

In March 2012, two girls died and 25,000 homes were affected when Hurricane Carlotta tore across Oaxaca.

US regains top slot in competitiveness ranking

GENEVA (AFP) - The United States has regained the top spot in a global economic competitiveness ranking thanks to a rebound of its financial sector, abundant technological innovation and successful companies.

In its annual ranking, released Thursday by the Swiss-based Institute for Management Development (IMD), the United States jumped back from the number two slot in which it found itself in 2012.

Last year's frontrunner, Hong Kong, meanwhile fell to third place in the 2013 ranking, while Switzerland moved up to second from third.

"We base our study on 333 criteria, two-thirds of them statistics and the remaining third opinion polls," Stephane Garelli, head of the IMD World Competitiveness Center, told AFP.

"In the end, the golden rules of competitiveness are simple: manufacture, diversify, export, invest in infrastructure, educate, support SMEs, enforce fiscal discipline, and above all maintain social cohesion," he explained.

Running from table-topper the United States to last-placed Venezuela, the 60-economy ranking also helps flag up broader economic trends.

"While the eurozone remains stalled, the robust comeback of the US to the top of the competitiveness rankings, and better news from Japan, have revived the austerity debate," said Garelli. "Structural reforms are unavoidable, but growth remains a prerequisite for competitiveness. In addition, the harshness of austerity measures too often antagonises the population. In the end, countries need to preserve social cohesion to deliver prosperity," he added.



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Biden warns of drugs threat to Caribbean

Continued from pg 1

"Now, because of the significant initiatives we have with our Central American friends, the concern is legitimately shared by many that it may move back into the Caribbean in a greater scale than exists now," Biden said.

"Toward that end, we've invested more than \$30 billion under this administration to reduce demands for drugs in my country, which is part of our responsibility and our obligation."

"We know that as other nations in the hemisphere make strides against drug trafficking, the threat, as I said, may increasingly shift back toward the Caribbean," Biden said.

To combat such threats, Washington has committed over \$200 million to support

the first three years of the Caribbean Security Initiative, designed to link Washington and partner nations in combating drugs and transnational crime.

Biden was also signing a trade and investment framework with the Caribbean community designed to overcome specific barriers to trade and investment, though noted Washington had lifted tariffs on 85 percent of the region's goods.

The vice president's talks also covered energy, human and social development and anti-poverty programs.

Among leaders at the mini-summit were Haitian President and Caricom chairman Michel Joseph Martelly and President Donald Ramotar of Guyana along with top

officials from the Bahamas, Grenada, St Kitts/Nevis, St Vincent and St Lucia.

On Monday, Biden said US support for Colombia's peace process with Marxist rebels remained solid, after talks in Bogota with President Juan Manuel Santos.

Since 2000, Washington has poured more than \$8 billion into military aid, training and technology to try to help Bogota stamp out Latin America's longest-running insurgency.

Biden's regional swing comes days before Chinese President Xi Jinping plans to travel to Mexico, Costa Rica and Trinidad and Tobago on his way to a summit with US President Barack Obama on June 7-8 in Rancho Mirage, California.



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International News

Israel warns will act if Russia sends Syria missiles

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Israel warned it "will know what to do" if Russia delivers promised anti-aircraft missiles to its war-torn ally Syria, amid growing fears of a wider conflict brewing as the fighting spills into Lebanon.

The developments stoked tensions after the European Union decided to lift an embargo on supplying weapons to Syria's rebels, in a move the opposition reacted to with caution.

Syria's regime joined its ally Russia in condemning the EU decision as an "obstruction" to peace efforts, while accusing the bloc of supporting and encouraging "terrorists".

The United States said it supported the EU move as a show of "full support" for the rebels, despite its own refusal to provide arms it fears will end up in jihadist hands.

The lifting of the embargo "sends a message to the Assad regime that support for the opposition is only going to increase", said US State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell.

Moscow said its planned to deliver to Damascus the S-300 missiles -- designed to intercept aircraft or other missiles like Patriots NATO has already deployed on Turkey's border with Syria -- which were part of existing contracts.

Israel has strongly objected to the delivery, and its defence minister warned of a response.

The Jewish state has reportedly carried out at least three strikes against Syria since the

uprising against President Bashar al-Assad erupted in March 2011, apparently targeting weapons.

On the ground, the conflict has already spilled over into Lebanon, and in the latest incident three soldiers were killed in an attack near the northern border town of Arsal, where most people back the uprising in Syria.

And in the eastern Lebanese town of Hermel, security sources said six rockets apparently fired from Syria hit the Hezbollah stronghold, wounding seven people.

Hezbollah is allied with Syria's regime and fighting alongside the army against the rebels, including in the central town of Qusayr, where it has lost dozens of men.

The tensions overshadowed an ongoing meeting in Istanbul of Syria's opposition National Coalition, which responded cautiously to the EU's decision to lift its arms embargo on the rebels.

A week into the marathon talks aimed at presenting a united front on a proposed peace conference aimed at ending the civil war, Syria's opposition remains more divided than ever, pulled apart by regional power grabs and unpopular with rebels on the ground.

The EU agreed Monday to lift the arms embargo, but no member state intends to send any weapons immediately for fear of endangering prospects for the planned peace conference.

Two US embassy personnel shot in Venezuela

CARACAS (AFP) - Two employees of the US embassy in Venezuela were shot and wounded early Tuesday in the capital Caracas, in a murky incident that local media and a police source said took place at a strip club.

US diplomatic sources later confirmed to AFP that the two men were shot.

The Venezuelan media identified the two men as Roberto Ezequiel Rosas and Paul Marvin, and said they were military attaches at the embassy, but neither the State Department nor the embassy in Caracas would confirm those reports.

Venezuelan television channel Globovision reported on its website that the incident took place at the Antonella bar located in a shopping center in the Chacao district of Caracas, after an altercation with other bar patrons.

Bar staff told AFP on condition of anonymity that the venue is indeed a strip club that only admits men over the age of 30, but refused to say anything about the alleged incident involving the US embassy personnel.

A district policeman, who also spoke to AFP on condition of anonymity, said a shooting incident had been reported just outside the Antonella bar, involving three Americans.

Venezuela has the highest murder rate in South America with 54 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants. In the first quarter of 2013 alone, there were 3,400 murders, according to government statistics.

The United States and Venezuela, which have had no ambassadors since 2010, have had strained relations since Caracas accused Washington of backing a coup that briefly ousted the late Hugo Chavez in 2002.

Despite the tensions, Venezuela sells the United States 900,000 barrels of oil a day.

UN rights body condemns Syrian use of foreign fighters in Qusayr

GENEVA (AFP) - The UN's top rights body on Wednesday voted to condemn the Syrian regime's use of foreign fighters in the besieged town of Qusayr and ordered an urgent probe into the killings in the town.

Thirty-six of the UN Human Rights Council's 47 member states voted in favour of the resolution that implicitly refers to the involvement of fighters from Lebanon's militant group Hezbollah in the fierce battle for the strategic town, where hundreds of civilians have reportedly been killed.

Eight countries abstained, two refrained from voting and only Venezuela cast its vote against the resolution.

The text, which was put forward by the United States, Turkey and Qatar and which is non-binding, "condemns the intervention of foreign combatants fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime in Al Qusayr."

It goes on to express "deep concern" that the involvement of the fighters could "further

exacerbate the deteriorating human rights and humanitarian situation".

The resolution also stressed "the need to ensure accountability for those responsible for the massacre in Al Qusayr".

Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah sent almost 1,700 fighters to Qusayr more than a week ago to support the regime's assault on the rebel stronghold.

Control of Qusayr is essential for the rebels as it is their principal transit point for weapons and fighters from Lebanon.

The resolution means the UN commission of inquiry on Syria tasked since 2011 with probing rights abuses across the country will be ordered to investigate the killings in the town.

The investigators, who include legendary former war crimes prosecutor Carla del Ponte, will however probably not be able to visit the site, as it has so far been barred by the regime from entering the country.

Honduras gangs open to truce to end violence



SAN PEDRO SULA (AFP) - Members of the Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) gang, are pictured behind bars at the prison of San Pedro Sula, 240 km north of Tegucigalpa. Leaders of the MS-13 and the Mara 18 (M-18) of Honduras, announced their disposition to reach a truce with the mediation of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Catholic Church. The gangs are involved in drug trafficking that has brought terror to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

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Health & Living

Death toll from SARS-like virus hits 27: WHO

GENEVA (AFP) - The global death toll from a SARS-like virus has risen to 27, the World Health Organization said Wednesday after three patients died in hard-hit Saudi Arabia and another in France.

The new virus was last week renamed the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus, or MERS, reflecting the fact that the bulk of cases are in that region.

There have been 38 confirmed infections in Saudi Arabia, with 22 fatalities, according to WHO figures.

The UN health agency logs cases and deaths according to the country where the individual is thought to have caught the disease, with its Saudi toll including one individual who subsequently died in Britain.

Previously known as nCoV-EMC novel coronavirus, the disease is a cousin of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which sparked a world health scare in 2003 when it leapt from animals to humans in Asia and went on to kill some 800 people.

Like SARS, the new virus appears to cause an infection deep in the lungs, with patients suffering from a temperature, cough and breathing difficulty. But it differs from SARS in that it also causes rapid kidney failure.

Health officials have expressed concern about the high rate of fatalities compared to the number of cases, warning that the disease could spark a new global crisis if it acquires an ability to spread more easily.

Six suspected cases of Ebola reported in DR Congo: UN

KINSHASA (AFP) - Six suspected cases of Ebola have been reported in the northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, just six months after an outbreak of the deadly virus ended in the area, the United Nations said Wednesday.

Sylvestre Ntumba, an official working for the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, said the cases had been recorded between May 1 and May 12 in the Bas-Uele district, in the northeastern Orientale Province.

"Six suspected cases of Ebola haemorrhagic fever have been reported," he told reporters at a press conference in Kinshasa.

"With the support of the World Health Organisation (WHO), a team from the provincial health division is on the ground to investigate and to take samples," he said,

adding they are currently awaiting results.

To date, no treatment or vaccine is available for Ebola, which kills between 25 and 90 percent of those who fall sick, depending on the strain of the virus, according to the WHO.

The disease is transmitted by direct contact with blood, faeces or sweat, or by sexual contact or unprotected han-

dling of contaminated corpses. Ebola, one of the world's most virulent diseases, was first discovered in the DRC in 1976 and the country has had eight outbreaks.

The most recent epidemic, in the same region, infected 62 people and left 34 dead between May and November last year, according to the country's health ministry.



MIRIBEL (AFP) - Stefano Sileoni, (C), a 41-year-old Italian worker who received a transplant for his two hands in November 2012, works on a re-education exercise, during a meeting with the medical staff at the Miribel clinic, near Lyon, on May 22, 2013. Sileoni, who lost his forearms while working on a machine, is the sixth transplant patient to be treated in Lyon. The world's first hand transplant was carried out in 1998 in Lyon.

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WHO urges global ban on all tobacco marketing

GENEVA (AFP) - Governments worldwide must ban all forms of tobacco marketing, not just billboards and TV ads, as companies find new ways to tap the market, the World Health Organization said Wednesday.

Douglas Bettcher, head of the WHO's non-communicable disease division, said tougher measures were needed to rein in tobacco use, which claims six million lives a year.

"This is an industry that sells a product that kills up to half their consumers," but companies are still able to draw in a new generation of smokers despite measures in a 2005 tobacco-control treaty, he said.

"Most tobacco users start their deadly drug dependence before the age of 20," he told reporters, ahead of Friday's World No Tobacco Day.

Bans on overt advertising are crucial, he said, but companies are masters at finding less-obvious means to attract potential smokers and ensure customers remain loyal.

He pointed to tactics including selling branded products such as clothing, product-placement in reality TV shows, using social media to fuel a

sense of consumer community, and event sponsorship.

Bettcher noted that as of 2011, 19 nations had introduced total bans -- and seen a seven-percent reduction in tobacco use -- while one-third of countries had minimal or no restrictions. Fresh data are due in July.

With increasingly-tough measures in developed nations, tobacco firms have moved to drive up demand in markets such as Africa.

Bettcher warned of a "perfect storm" on that continent, with health services even less able to cope with the impact of smoking than their developed-nation equivalents.

Bettcher also lauded Australia for its landmark plain packaging rules, in force since December, which require tobacco products to be sold in drab-green boxes bearing the same typeface and graphic images of diseased smokers.

New Zealand and Ireland have announced plans to follow suit, despite a tobacco industry-backed challenge to Australia at the World Trade Organization by cigar-producers Cuba, Honduras and the Dominican Republic, plus Ukraine.

Sci-Tech**Chinese
hackers
spying on
US weapons
programs**

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Chinese hackers have gained access to secret designs for a slew of sophisticated US weapons programs, officials said Tuesday, possibly jeopardizing the American military's technological edge.

The breaches were part of a broad Chinese campaign of espionage against top US defense contractors and government agencies, officials said, confirming a Washington Post account of a Pentagon report.

The Defense Science Board, a senior advisory group with government and civilian experts, concluded that digital hackers had gained access to designs for two dozen major weapons systems critical to missile defenses, combat aircraft and naval ships, according to a Pentagon document cited by the Post.

The cyber spying gave China access to advanced technology and could weaken the US military's advantage in the event of a conflict, the board said.

The Pentagon advisory report stopped short of accusing Beijing of stealing the designs, but the conclusions help explain recent American warnings to the Chinese government.

The revelations of cyber espionage coincided with a report that Chinese hackers had stolen top-secret blueprints of Australia's new intelligence agency headquarters, including the layout for communications systems and server locations.

Pentagon spokesman George Little played down the report and said the department had taken steps to help contractors counter digital spying.

**It's alive! Moss frozen
for 400 yrs grows again**

OTTAWA (AFP) - Plants entombed under ice in Canada's far north for centuries have come back to life after exposure to air and sunlight, Canadian researchers have found.

University of Alberta researcher Catherine La Farge collected what she believed to be dead mosses (or bryophytes) from the foot of a retreating glacier in Sverdrup Pass on Ellesmere Island.

Carbon dating determined the plants were 400-600 years old and had been entombed during the Little Ice Age that occurred between 1550 and 1850.

La Farge was then able to revive the mosses in a lab, overturning a long-held assumption that plant remains exposed by retreating polar glaciers are all dead.

Previously, new plant growth in these areas was considered the result of rapid colonization by modern plants surrounding a glacier.

But La Farge showed the plants' resilience in research published this week in the latest issue of the journal of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"We know that bryophytes can remain dormant for many years (for example, in deserts) and then are reactivated, but nobody expected them to rejuvenate after nearly 400 years beneath a glacier," La Farge said in a statement.

In her lab, she ground up the plant materials and placed

them in potting soils. Within weeks, green filaments began to sprout. Of the 24 samples seven showed growth, successfully regenerating from the original parent material.

Mosses are hardy, having been around for 400 million years. They evolved from sea algae, paving the way for other land plants.

Unlike most other plants, mosses reproduce by cloning their cells, La Farge said. "Any bryophyte cell can reprogram itself to initiate the development of an entire new plant. This is equivalent to stem cells in faunal systems."



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Facebook revamps guidelines after rape protests

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Facebook has announced it is updating its policies on "harmful and hateful" content after a campaign complaining it was allowing jokes and other offensive comments about rape and domestic abuse.



- 1 - Switch all your light-bulbs to CFLs (or at least switch a few).
- 2 - Stop using disposable bags. Use a reusable one.
- 3 - Turn off lights when you leave the room.
- 4 - Drive the speed limit, and combine all your errands for the week in one trip.
- 5 - Turn off your computer completely at night.
- 6 - Fix leaky faucets.
- 7 - Unplug unused chargers and appliances.
- 8 - Collect rainwater, and use it to water your houseplants and garden.

Facebook vice president of global public policy Marne Levine said the social network would "complete our review and update the guidelines" around hate speech and seek comments from legal experts, women's organizations and other groups "that have historically faced discrimination."

"In recent days, it has become clear that our systems to identify and remove hate speech have failed to work as effectively as we would like, particularly around issues of gender-based hate," Levine's statement said Tuesday.

"In some cases, content is not being removed as quickly as we want. In other cases, content that should be removed has not been or has been evaluated using outdated criteria... We need to do better -- and we will."

Facebook announced the change a week after a campaign organized by the activist group Women, Action & The Media, which claimed the social network "has long allowed content endorsing violence against women."

"They claim that these pages fall under the 'humor' part of their guidelines, or are expressions of 'free speech,'" the group said in launching the campaign.

After the Facebook announcement, the organization hailed the action.

"We are reaching an international tipping point in attitudes towards rape and violence against women," said Jaclyn Friedman, executive director of the group.

"We hope that this effort stands as a testament to the power of collaborative action."



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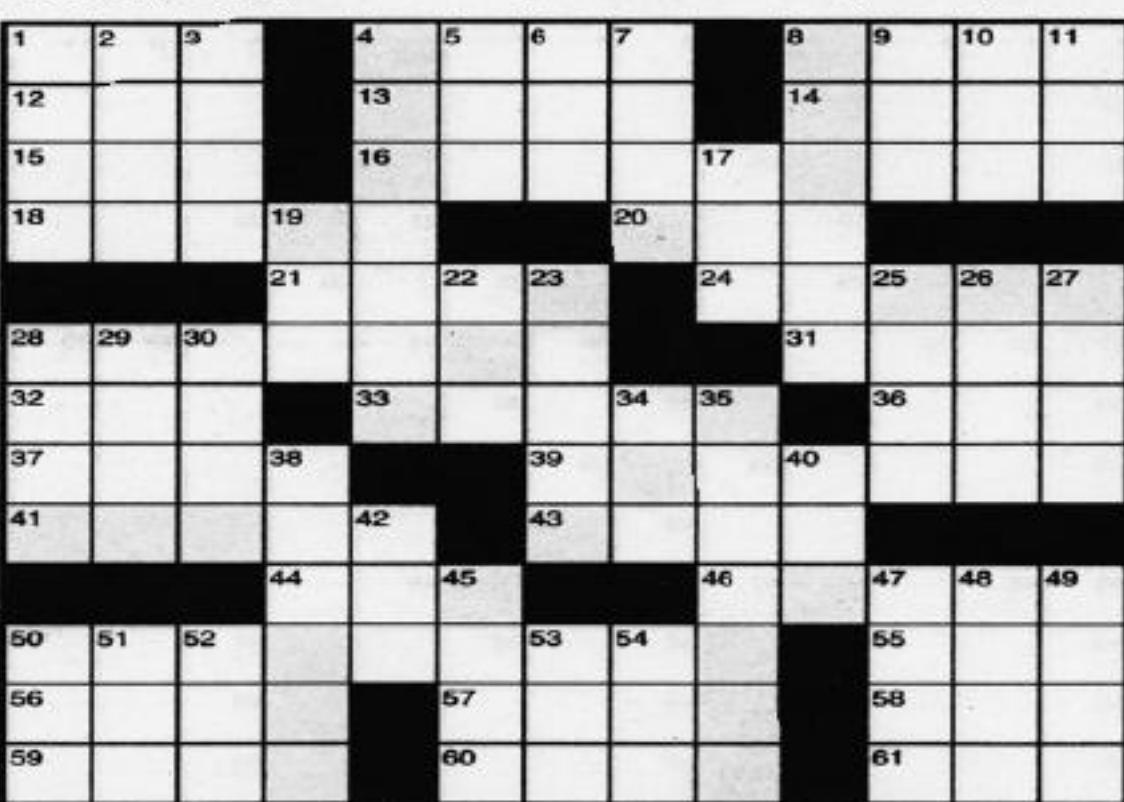
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ACROSS

- TV commercials
- "Vogue" adjective
- Flabbergast
- Purring creature
- Not counterfeit
- Comic Johnson
- Three (Ital.)
- Single
- Green and Rogen
- Narc's org.
- Moby Dick's

- nemesis
24. ___ letter
28. Place to get a degree
31. Red tag event
32. Lyric verse
33. Rigid
36. Gun the motor
37. "West Side Story" song
39. See out of the corner of one's eye
41. Whether ___ (2 wds.)
43. Currency unit in Italy
44. Corn center
46. Merriment
50. Michigan, e.g. (2 wds.)
55. "Yes, captain!"
56. Drop feathers

CROSSWORD



57. "___ the night before..."
58. Lifesaving skill (abbr.)
59. "Easy ___ , easy go"
60. Dispatched e-mail
61. Pro's vote
- DOWN**
- Vaudeville attractions
 - Start playground trouble
 - Proofreading note
 - Teenage romances
 - Chick's mom
 - "___ Woman" (2 wds.)
30. Ponce de ___
34. Winter illness
35. Most solid
38. Track down
40. Miss Piggy's pronoun
42. Big Bird fan
45. Certain sandwiches
47. Bawdy
48. Sort
49. Wife of Zeus
50. Detroit automaker, for short
51. "Pooh" character
52. Graceful tree
53. Holy fear
54. Topeka's st.

SOLUTION

7	1	4	8	3	6	9	2	5
6	8	5	1	9	2	4	3	7
3	9	2	4	5	7	1	6	8
4	7	6	9	8	1	3	5	2
5	2	9	3	6	4	7	8	1
8	3	1	7	2	5	6	9	4
2	6	7	5	4	9	8	1	3
9	4	8	2	1	3	5	7	6
1	5	3	6	7	8	2	4	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



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AI Anon Meetings
Mondays 6-7pm
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Sudoku

1						7	8	2	4
						3	5		
2	6					4			
8		1				5			
						7			
						9	3	2	
							5		6
							6	8	
						5	1		
1	4	8	3						5

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FINANCE

Swiss strike bank deal with US over tax evasion

GENEVA (AFP) - Switzerland has accepted a United States demand to settle a dispute over the alleged complicity of Swiss banks in tax evasion by Americans, Finance Minister Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf said Wednesday.

The deal, which will require approval by parliament, frees up Swiss banks to circumvent some elements of secrecy laws and turn over key information to US authorities.

She declined to give details of the sum that the banks will have to pay US revenue authorities in order to win legal closure, though Swiss media have reported that the overall figure could hit 10 billion Swiss francs (\$10.3 billion, 8.0 billion euros).

Washington has repeatedly accused Swiss banks of complicity in tax evasion, since they hold billions of dollars belonging to American citizens accused of hiding away taxable income from the US revenue service.

"If a bank has done a lot of business involving undeclared American funds, it will have to deal with the problem," Widmer-Schlumpf underlined.

However, any bank failing to toe the line risks being

barred from the US market.

Widmer-Schlumpf indicated that the government had been presented with a take it or leave it offer by Washington.

She rejected reports that the Swiss taxpayer would have to come up with at least part of the funds.

Widmer-Schlumpf underlined that the goal of the deal was to create a legal framework under which the banks themselves could win legal closure of their disputes with the United States.

A bill on the deal will be put to parliament next month, and the implementation of its provisions will be limited to one year.

In a statement, the government said the bill "authorises banks to cooperate with the US authorities and to make available the information necessary to safeguard their interests".

US fines Total \$398 mn over bribes in Iran

WASHINGTON (AFP) - French oil giant Total agreed Wednesday to pay US authorities \$398.2 million to settle charges it bribed officials in Iran to secure oil and gas concessions.

But meanwhile prosecutors in Paris working with Washington in the same investigation moved to have the company and its chief executive Christophe de Margerie charged with violating French bribery laws.

Bringing to a head a case rooted in the 1990s, the US Department of Justice announced it was fining Total \$245.2 million for violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), which seeks to stop bribery in foreign countries by companies with a significant US presence.

In addition, the Securities and Exchange Commission penalized Total, whose shares trade as American Depository Receipts on the New York Stock Exchange, another \$153 million in disgorgement of

profits from the tainted Iran deals.

The fines were expected since last year, when Total set aside \$398 million in provisions for them.

In France Total's shares fell 1.7 percent to 39.40 euros (\$51.09) while the US-traded ADRs were flat at \$51.25.

The charges stemmed from some \$60 million in bribes that

Total intermediaries paid Iranian officials between 1995 and 2004 to obtain the rights to develop several oil and gas fields, the Justice Department said.

Total has been under investigation in the United States since 2003 and in France since 2006, and US authorities have worked together with French officials in the lengthy probe.

Top Obama economic aide to leave White House

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama said Tuesday that one of his closest economic advisors Alan Krueger was leaving to head back to academia. He is expected to be replaced by another top aide, Jason Furman.

"While we have more work to do, today our economy is improving -- thanks, in no small part, to Alan's efforts." Obama said of his departing chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors.

Krueger will be returning to Princeton University, where he is a tenured professor.

Obama is expected to name Furman, currently a deputy of the National Economic Council to replace Krueger, though the White House would not comment on indications that he was being lined up for the job.

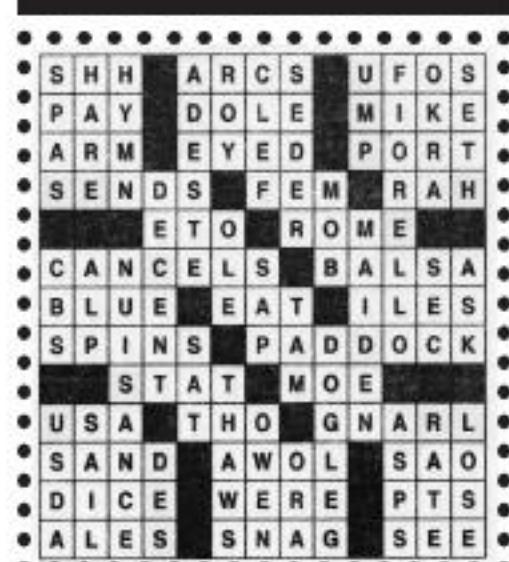
The Council on Economic Advisors analyzes economic data and immediate trends and offers policy advice to the US president.

The National Economic Council coordinates policy matters for the president and weighs in on international and national economic matters.



BARCELONA (AFP) - Spanish firefighters set fires in the street and scuffled with police in Barcelona on Wednesday during protests against budget cuts that they say are threatening public safety. Hundreds of firefighters in yellow helmets and red jackets gathered in front of the Catalonia regional parliament, some letting off firecrackers and smoke bombs, and set fire to model coffins marked "public services". There were light scuffles and police charged the protesters, detaining one, police and labour unions said. Police moved in with extinguishers and put out some of the burning coffins.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 05/29/2013	Currency code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
	U.S.A.	1.77	1.78	1.80
	Dutch Antilles	98.00	100.00	100.20
	Canada	1.77	1.79	1.74
	Britain	2.80	2.85	2.74
	Switzerland	191.71	192.43	186.17
	Netherlands	230.59	232.69	233.00
	Sweden	25.91	26.63	27.24
	Denmark	30.23	30.95	31.50
	Norway	30.67	31.39	30.91
	Japan	214.88	216.84	178.00
(per 10,000)				
All rates for amounts up to AWG 100,00 per item.				

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Nuns on bus drive for US immigration reform



JERSEY CITY (AFP) - A group of campaigning Catholic nuns set off from New Jersey in a bus Wednesday for a cross-country journey to raise support for proposed reforms of the US immigration system.

The nuns from the group Network left from Jersey City, across the Hudson River from Manhattan and looking over the water to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, where some eight million immigrants were processed during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Organizers said they back a proposed legal overhaul that would open the door to citizenship for millions of currently illegal immigrants. The draft law took a big step earlier this month when a Senate panel gave bipartisan approval.

"We are going on the road

for immigration reform," Sister Simone Campbell told AFP. "Our immigration system is broken and we have a chance to make a difference... An important piece of legislation has passed out of committee in the Senate and we want to make sure it goes all the way till law."

The approximately 25-strong group, which did a similar road trip last year to campaign against government budget cuts targeting the poor, is scheduled to cross 15 states, going south to Florida, then west through Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California -- all states where immigration is a major concern.

The nuns were planning 53 meetings in 40 cities along the way of a 10,400 kilometer (6,500 mile) journey in their bus, which was emblazoned with the words "Nuns on the

bus" and the slogan "raise your hands, raise your voice."

"We are a people of immigrants and that's the story we want to tell," Campbell told a small crowd coming to see them off. "We are a bigger and a better nation because of our immigrant heritage and the future is the same as the past."

The rolling campaign, which ends June 18 in San Francisco, mixes old-fashioned travel with high-tech social media, calling on Americans to send text messages of support, while Sister Simone, 68, Tweets from the bus.

"We are a bigger and a better nation because of our immigrant heritage and the future is the same as the past. We've done it before, we can do it again, build up this nation with immigrants' energy, creativity and commitment," she told the crowd at the farewell.

The nuns, already veterans of social justice fights, said they didn't expect an easy ride.

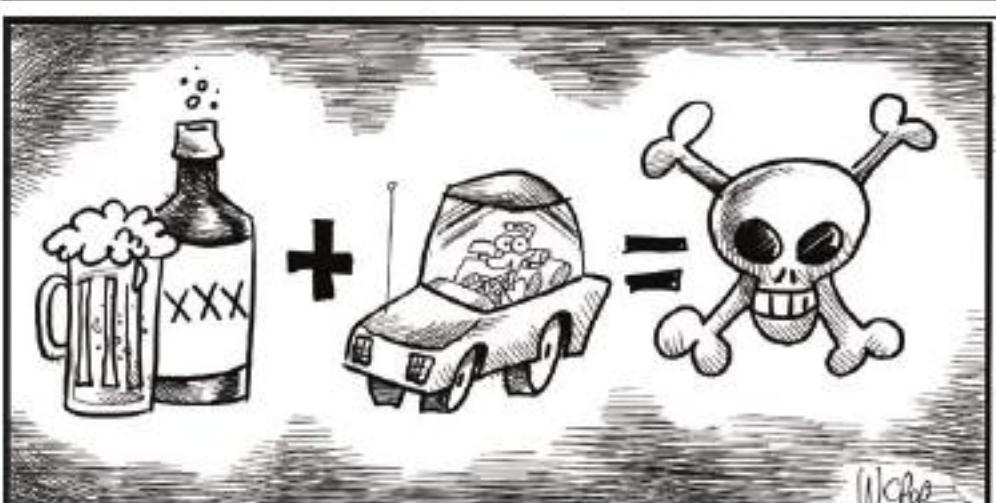
"It is difficult, we never pick easy targets," Sister Simone said. "Catholic sisters have a tendency to pick up really tough stuff."

However, the arrival of a new pope in the Vatican with a strong message of humility and support for the poor has been a morale boost, she said. "We have a new pope who understands the needs of the poor, it is so wonderful."

Oops! Miss Universe Canada crowns wrong winner



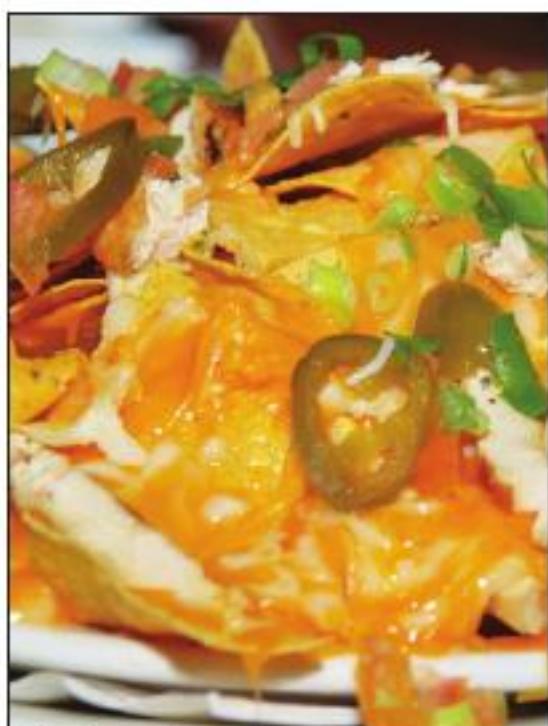
OTTAWA (AFP) - Losing is never easy, but for one unlucky contestant in Canada's Miss Universe competition the bad news came 24 hours later -- after she'd been crowned the winner. Red-faced organizers admitted on Wednesday that a typo led to a counting error that resulted in Denise Garrido, 26, being wrongly named the victor at Saturday's event. She was stripped of her sash and crown the next day. In a statement, pageant director Denis Davila blamed an inexperienced employee for the typo when transferring the judges' handwritten scores into a computer program that determines the winner. An independent audit later spotted the error. It turned out that Garrido had actually finished third runner-up to Riza Santos, also 26, of Calgary, who will now collect her crown in that city on Saturday, according to a pageant spokesman.



Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced

there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The "Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9; pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15.

Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can ex-



Threesome, takes care of the entertainment

breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making patrons feel welcome. "If somebody really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If

pect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, 'Threesome.' There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose, players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.

The Mill is livening up the weekends with live bands, karaoke and happy hour prices!

--A nice place for all ages to gather, dance and enjoy drinks at terrific prices is the charming pool terrace bar of The Mill Resort, just behind the famous Palm Beach landmark. The al fresco environment and mellow ambience is just right for tapping into your inner Andy Williams, as Frank from upstate New York while indulging in karaoke directed by DJ Raymond and MC Imbert on Friday evening, from 9:00 until 11:00 PM.

Friday night starts warming up at 5:00 PM with The Mill's official daily "Happy Hour" and 2-for-1 drinks, accompanied on the weekends by live music from a popular local band.

The DJ and MC takes over at 8:00 PM for musical nostalgia trips going back to the 70's 80's or 90's, plus audience-interaction with everyone's all-time lounge favorite, karaoke, and extended happy hour prices!

You never know what Friday night will bring at The Mill Resort, which always has some special surprise for its guests, and visiting clientele.



BOLOGNA: (AFP) - This handout photo provided by the University of Bologna, Italy shows the oldest complete scroll of the Torah. The world's oldest complete Torah scroll has been found in a university archive in Bologna, according to an Italian professor who said the text could be from the 12th century. The precious lambskin scroll had been classified by the university library as being from the 17th century and was named simply "Scroll Number Two". But Hebrew Studies professor Mauro Perani told AFP on Wednesday he noticed that the text did not conform to key changes in Torah writing brought about in the 12th century.



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SPORTS

NHL: Kings oust Sharks to keep title defence alive



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Reigning playoff MVP Jonathan Quick made 25 saves as the defending champion Los Angeles Kings advanced to the NHL playoff semi-finals with a 2-1 win over the San Jose Sharks on Tuesday.

Forward Justin Williams scored both Los Angeles goals and Quick made several key stops down the stretch as the Kings held on in the deciding game to win the Western Conference playoff series four games to three.

After a scoreless first period, Williams busted through with

two goals in three minutes for Los Angeles, who won their first Stanley Cup championship a year ago behind the brilliant goaltending of all-star Quick who picked up the 2012 Conn Smythe Trophy as the MVP of the Stanley Cup finals.

Heading into game seven, the home team had won every game in this evenly matched all-California series and the fifth seeded Kings kept that streak alive in front of a crowd of 18,593 at Staples Center arena.

Los Angeles claimed games one, two and five, while San Jose grabbed games three and four at the Shark Tank arena before levelling the series at 3-3 with a 2-1 win at home on Sunday.

The Kings are now 4-4 in game sevens. The last time they played in one was in 2002 when Colorado beat them four games to none to take the opening-round series. The Sharks are 5-3 all-time in game sevens.

Los Angeles is now a perfect 7-0 at home in the post-season and have won 14 consecutive games at Staples Center where their last loss was to the Vancouver Canucks on March 23.

DO NOT LITTER

Tennis: Serena show no mercy at French Open

PARIS (AFP) - Serena Williams racked up a 26th consecutive win as the former champions showed no mercy to hapless opponents at Roland Garros on Wednesday.

Women's top seed Williams cruised to a 6-1, 6-2 win over French teenager Caroline Garcia, conceding just seven points on her serve.

The 31-year-old American, who will face Romania's Sorana Cristea, the 26th seed, for a place in the last 16, has dropped just four games in two rounds.

"I felt I was doing well, being serious and getting the job done," said Williams. "I like the clay here, I like to slide."

Her 26th consecutive win in 2013 is only nine behind the record of 35 set by sister Venus in 2000.

In stark contrast, Danish 10th seed Caroline Wozniacki, a former world number one, went down 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 to Serbian world number 47 Bojana Jovanovski, who had defeated her in Rome two weeks ago.

Wozniacki had only snapped a five-match losing streak in the first round in Paris when she beat Britain's Laura Robson.

Double Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka cruised into the second round.

Third-seeded Azarenka clinched a 6-1, 6-4 win over Elena Vesnina -- her fifth win in five matches against the experienced Russian -- and will next face German 19-year-old Annika Beck, the 2012 junior champion, for a place in the third round.

Olympics: Wrestling takes step towards Games rehabilitation

SAINT-PETERSBURG (AFP) - Wrestling's chances of regaining its place on the Olympic sports roster moved a step closer on Wednesday as the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) included it in a shortlist of three to be voted on in September by the wider membership.

Wrestling is one of the Olympics' most historic sports but was surprisingly voted off the list in February by the same Executive Board.

It will compete against squash and a joint softball/baseball bid in Buenos Aires on September 8.

Both softball and baseball were voted off as separate sports in 2009 and replaced by golf and rugby sevens, which will each make their debuts in 2016.

Only one sport will be added to the roster.

Squash great Nicol David, who appeared as part of the presentation team, was ecstatic at the result.

"This is a great day for Squash as it takes us one step closer to realising our long held ambition to join the Olympic Games," said the seven-time women's world champion.

IOC President Jacques Rogge, who himself will be re-

placed in September when he steps down after 12 years in charge, said that all the sports had given a good account of themselves to him and his fellow 14 members of the Executive Board.

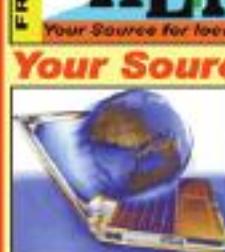
"The Executive Board received excellent presentations today from eight International Federations," said Rogge.

"It was never going to be an easy decision but I feel my colleagues on the Board made a good decision in selecting baseball/softball, squash and wrestling to be put forward in Buenos Aires. I wish the three shortlisted sports the best of luck in the run-up to the vote in September and would like to thank the other sports for their hard work and dedication."

Five other sports failed to get on the shortlist after making their presentations to the Executive Board: climbing, karate - which had been thought to be in with a good chance of making the list - martial art wushu, wakeboard - a nautical sport - and roller sports.

Wrestling, one of the rare sports to transcend the ancient and modern Games, has introduced a sweeping range of reforms since it was voted off under new president Nenad Lalovic.

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Football: Bayern oust Man United as top brand - report



LONDON (AFP) - Champions League winners Bayern Munich have overtaken Manchester United as the most valuable brand in world football, according to a report released on Wednesday by London-based consultancy firm Brand Finance.

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"It's a record year in terms of turnover, as we'll break the 400 million euros turnover mark for the first time," said club chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

"No German club has ever been close before. Propelled by our success on the field, we're breaking every record off it, too. The club is in great shape for the future."

Bayern face Stuttgart on Saturday in the German Cup final, having already broken or equalled 25 German league records en route to success in the Bundesliga.

According to the report, Bayern are now valued at \$860 million (669 million euros, £572 million), overtaking last year's top side United (\$837 million) as football's most lucrative brand.

Spanish giants Real Madrid (\$621 million) and Barcelona (\$572 million) are third and fourth in the new ranking.

Bayern, who beat domestic rivals Borussia Dortmund 2-1 in Saturday's Champions League final at London's Wembley Stadium, have seen their brand value increase by 51 million euros compared to last season, while United's value has dropped by 20 million euros.

"The challenge now for all Bundesliga clubs and the league itself is to see if they can export their domestic brand strength into global opportunities," said Brand Finance's CEO David Haigh.

Interest in Bayern from overseas fans has shot up this season, with one million Munich replica shirts expected to be sold in 2013, compared to 600,000 in the 2012 calendar year.

By comparison, Dortmund have sold around 350,000 replica shirts this season.

The report's figures were calculated using a formula based on future turnover attributable to the brand name and reflect Bayern's growing power, with the Bavarians poised to become the first German club to win the treble of European Cup, German Cup and league titles.

Tennis: Federer on guard on easy street

PARIS (AFP) - Roger Federer, the 2009 champion, raced into the third round at the French Open on Wednesday with a 6-2, 6-1, 6-1 thrashing of India's Somdev Devvarman and noted what he needs now is someone to push him all the way to keep him on his toes.

Federer, who won a record 17th Grand Slam at Wimbledon last year, next faces Julien Benneteau of France and says he must be careful not to become lulled into a false sense of security after swamping two qualifiers for the loss of just 11 games to date.

NBA: Hornacek returns to Suns, Hawks hire Budenholzer as head coach

PHOENIX (AFP) - The Phoenix Suns hired former all-star player Jeff Hornacek as their new head coach on Tuesday, the National Basketball Association club announced.

Hornacek played 468 games with the Suns from 1986-1992 and was selected an NBA all-star in his final season with Phoenix.

He returns from the Utah Jazz where he served as the club's shooting coach before being promoted to assistant coach.

The Suns chose Hornacek in the second round of the 1986 NBA entry draft. He averaged 13.7 points a game with Phoenix before being dealt to Philadelphia following the 1991-1992 season -- part of a major trade that saw Charles Barkley head to the Suns.

Hornacek spent one season with the 76ers, then played for Utah from 1994-2000. He helped the Jazz to NBA finals in 1997 and 1998.

While in Atlanta, The Atlanta Hawks have hired San Antonio assistant coach Mike Budenholzer to become the

The veteran star indicated he did not enjoy winning by such a wide margin as Wednesday's in deference to his beaten opponents and observed there was a downside to simple victories as "it can be complicated after getting through two rounds when I have not spent much time on court."

In his opening match he crushed Spanish qualifier Pablo Carreno-Busta and Devverman was likewise dispatched rapidly if not entirely effortlessly.

Benneteau, who beat him in Rotterdam earlier this year and who came within two points of knocking him out at Wimbledon last year after taking the opening two sets, will be a different matter entirely.

Benneteau meanwhile advanced with a five-set win over Germany's Tobias Kamke and now has the chance to avenge a round of 16 loss to Federer in Paris five years ago and pocketed the second in barely half an hour.

Federer's 898th tour victory leaves him still 25 short of joining Guillermo Vilas in third spot in the all-time list headed by Jimmy Connors on a seemingly unsurpassable 1,243 ahead of Ivan Lendl on 1,071.



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